

**From:** Robert Marino <[robert@thurstonclimateaction.org](mailto:robert@thurstonclimateaction.org)>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 14, 2022 12:05 AM  
**To:** DES SBCC  
**Subject:** Adopt all WSEC-R code proposals

External Email

Chair Anthony Doan,  
State Building Code Council  
PO Box 41449  
Olympia WA 98504-1449

Dear Chairman Doan,

Thank you for your time and for the time of the Council, and thank you as well for considering these building code updates. I strongly encourage the Council to adopt the whole package of WSEC-R code proposals.

My children's room is 10 feet from our gas stove. My children are ages three and five. We live in a rental. We use the stove multiple times every day. This releases hazardous pollutants into our home including lead, formaldehyde, nitrogen dioxide, benzene, ethylbenzene, toluene, xylene, and hexane among others. See this [recent study](#) by Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health for more detail. The gas stove in our home puts my children at over a 40% greater risk of developing symptoms of asthma.

Further, it is a safety hazard to have a gas pipeline running through our house, especially living near an earthquake fault line like the Cascadia subduction zone. Researchers predict that the "The Big One" (a magnitude 9.0 earthquake) has a 10-17% chance of ripping through western Washington in the next 50 years. I recently read of a gas pipeline explosion in Washington State that resulted in a fatality in which the suspected cause was simply some ice falling on the pipe infrastructure. If it just takes some falling ice to cause an explosion and kill someone, imagine the damage a significant earthquake would do gas pipelines. How many fatalities would be caused? Having this risk present in my house makes absolutely no sense when there are safer alternatives available.

As renters it is unlikely that we can replace our gas stove with a safer, cleaner electric model. But you have the power to make that happen for families in Washington State moving forward. You have the power to see to it that children have cleaner indoor air to breathe and won't have to live with the threat of dangerous gas pipelines exploding in an earthquake. This is an issue of safety for my family and the families of Washington. Therefore, I urge you to adopt all the residential energy code proposals.

Sincerely,

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